

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strike through~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please AMEND claims 1, 7, 10, and 11 and CANCEL claim 2, without prejudice or disclaimer, in accordance with the following:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A data search system, comprising:
a data retrieving part retrieving data;
a classifying and arranging part classifying and arranging the data in the data retrieving part on a display screen in accordance with feature values;
a ground information providing part providing each data with ground information visualizing grounds of the classification and the arrangement of the data; and
a display part displaying each data together with corresponding ground information in accordance with the classification and the arrangement of the data, wherein the data retrieving part receives the ground information displayed on the display part or a part of the ground information, or information obtained by altering a part of the ground information, and conducts a subsequent search processing by use of the received information as a search key.

2. CANCELLED

3. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The data search system according to claim 2~~1~~, wherein the classifying and arranging part conducts self-organization mapping processing in the classification and the arrangement of the data so that the data having similar feature values are disposed close to each other.

4. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The data search system according to claim 1, wherein the classifying and arranging part conducts self-organization mapping processing in the classification and the arrangement of the data so that data having similar feature values are disposed close to each other.

9. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The data search system according to claim 5, wherein the data is image data, and in the label information, the information on feature values is color information, and the distribution information on the feature values is representative of color information.

10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A data search method, comprising:
retrieving data;
classifying and arranging the data at a position on a display screen in accordance with feature values;
providing each data with ground information visualizing grounds for classification and arrangement at the position on the display screen; and
displaying each data together with corresponding ground information at a classification and arrangement position;
receiving the ground information displayed or a part of the ground information, or information obtained by altering a part of the ground information; and
conducting a subsequent search processing by use of the received information as a search key.

11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer program for realizing a data search system, comprising:
data retrieving processing to retrieve data;
classifying and arranging processing to classify and arrange the data obtained from the data retrieving processing at a position on a display screen in accordance with feature values;
ground information providing processing of each data with ground information visualizing grounds of the classification and the arrangement at the position; and
display processing to display each data together with corresponding ground information at a classification and arrangement position;
receiving the ground information displayed or a part of the ground information, or information obtained by altering a part of the ground information; and
conducting a subsequent search processing by use of the received information as a search key.

12. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The data search system according to claim 1,

wherein the display part displays the ground information corresponding to each data in a caption state so that the ground information accompanies each data.

13. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The data search method according to claim 10, wherein, in the display operation, the ground information corresponding to each data is displayed in a caption state so that the ground information accompanies each data.

14. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer program according to claim 11, wherein, in the display processing, the ground information corresponding to each data is displayed in a caption state so that the ground information accompanies each data.

5. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The data search system according to claim 1, wherein the ground information is label information representing information on feature values used in the classification and the arrangement and distribution information on the feature values of the data.

6. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The data search system according to claim 5, wherein the data is image data, and in the label information, the information on the feature values is color information, and the distribution information on the feature values is color histogram information.

7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A data search system, comprising:
a data retrieving part retrieving data;
a classifying and arranging part classifying and arranging the data in the data retrieving
part on a display screen in accordance with feature values;

a ground information providing part providing each data with ground information
visualizing grounds of the classification and the arrangement of the data; and

a display part displaying each data together with corresponding ground information in
accordance with the classification and the arrangement of the data~~The data search system~~
~~according to claim 5, wherein~~

the ground information is label information representing information on feature
values used in the classification and the arrangement and distribution information on the feature
values of the data, wherein and

the data is image data, and in the label information, the information on feature values is information on wavelet conversion feature values, and the distribution information on the feature values is distribution information on frequency components of the image data subjected to wavelet conversion.

8. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The data search system according to claim 5, wherein the data is image data, and in the label information, information on the feature values is edge information in image data, and the distribution information on the feature values is histogram information including a direction of an edge portion in the image data as an element.